

June 8-10, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The Detroit News: Appeals court revives developer's lawsuit over Detroit's Eliza Howell Park

"A Beverly Hills developer will get another chance in his legal fight to reclaim 158 acres of land his family gave the city to help create Eliza Howell Park in 1936. The state Court of Appeals recently sent Kenneth Cheyne's lawsuit back to Wayne County Circuit Court, ruling that a lower court judge should hear his argument the city violated deed restrictions that the land be used for 'park and recreational purposes only.' "

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Lawyer: Wayne County judge 'targeted' because of race

"Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Bruce Morrow has been 'targeted' for disciplinary proceedings partly because he is African-American, said his defense attorney in his opening statement at Morrow's judicial misconduct hearing brought the Michigan Judicial Tenure Commission."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: Hearings begin for Wayne County judge accused of misconduct

[Full story](#)

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Accused of flaunting the law, Judge Bruce Morrow's disciplinary hearings begin today

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Hathaway must pay penalty; Abuse of public trust merits punishment

The editorial states "Former Michigan Supreme Court Justice Diane Hathaway will be serving time in prison for bank fraud. She has been sentenced to 366 days in a federal prison and fined \$90,000 and ordered to serve two years' probation."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Judge issues gag order in Tucker Cipriano trial

"Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Shalina Kumar issued a gag order this afternoon preventing all parties involved in the Tucker Cipriano murder trial, including a family member who has been on radio and television lobbying for a plea deal, from talking until the end of the trial. The only ones exempt from that order are the attorneys. Oakland County prosecutors had filed an emergency motion earlier today seeking the order."

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Judge goes tough on West Michigan man with long criminal record

"A West Michigan man with more than 50 criminal convictions on his record is getting a stretch behind bars in his latest case. Livingston County Circuit Court Judge Michael P. Hatty on Thursday sentenced Nathaniel Wallace to 5 1/2 years to 15 years in prison for larceny from a building."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Daily Press & Argus: 52-time con headed to prison; Judge exceeds guidelines for scam artist

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Battle Creek Enquirer, the Lansing State Journal, and the Times Herald/Port Huron.

The Detroit News: Lawsuit says Michigan cemetery made burial mistake

"A lawsuit seeking \$10 million says a mix-up at a southwestern Michigan cemetery led a couple to be buried apart instead of under a headstone inscribed with the words 'Together For Ever.' The Kalamazoo Gazette reports the lawsuit filed in March in Kalamazoo County Circuit Court says Alfred Phillips was buried at Mount Ever-Rest Memorial Park South following his 1989 death, but the headstone was placed over the wrong plot."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Kalamazoo Gazette: Couple with 'Together For Ever' headstone separated by burial mix-up at Mount Ever-Rest cemetery

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: Kalamazoo cemetery facing \$10M suit over burial mistake

[Full story](#)

Battle Creek Enquirer: Magistrate David Barnes performed marriages for more than 6,000 people; He's retiring Friday after 35 years

"David Barnes applied to be a surveyor in 1978 and spent 35 years in court. Barnes, 62, finally will leave the Calhoun County Justice Center on Friday, when he retires as district court magistrate."

[Full story](#)

**** The article is available by subscription only.**

Crain's Detroit Business: EDITORIAL: Jail 'mistake' could spur better moves

"...The County must revisit the entire project, including the jail location. On the table is an intriguing proposition: Move the jail -- and even the county circuit and district courts -- from downtown to the 39-acre site of a shuttered state prison, not quite 20 years old. The state has offered the county a lease of the prison site for \$1 a year."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Scholarship benefit to honor retired Justice Marilyn Kelly

"Judges, lawyers and others will gather on June 11 to celebrate the public service career of retired Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kelly. Donations and net proceeds from the event will benefit the Marilyn Kelly Public Interest Endowed Scholarship at Wayne State University Law School."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Mental Health Court of the Third Circuit Court marks third graduation

"The Third Circuit Court held its third annual Mental Health Court graduation Friday at 1 p.m. in Detroit. Twenty graduates were given their certificate of completion in a ceremony hosted by Michigan State University-Detroit Center."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Diverse communities join to raise funds for foster children

"It doesn't take just one village to raise a child; sometimes it takes several. That's why representatives of several of the metro Detroit area's diverse 'villages' came together on June 1 to support the area's foster children during In Seventh Heaven, the annual fundraising gala presented by For The Seventh Generation."

[Full story](#)

Flint Journal: U.S. Supreme Court decision in Flint man's case could have far-reaching impact

"A Flint man's legal fight that traveled all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court may help open doors for people convicted of crimes who have found new evidence proving their innocence. The nation's highest court ruled last week that a statutory one-year deadline for inmates to file a habeas petition to challenge their conviction can be overlooked if they are attempting to present new evidence that could prove their innocence."

[Full story](#)

Hometown Life Newspapers: Court case load numbers take a dive; Change to cost Birmingham more

"Birmingham officials want to know why their neighbors are issuing fewer traffic tickets and arresting fewer people. The issue came up at Monday's City Commission meeting after Commissioner Rackline Hoff questioned why it was necessary for Birmingham to pay the 48th District Court an additional \$140,000 to cover expenditures — especially since the number of traffic tickets and drunken driving arrests in Birmingham has substantially increased over the past 12 months."

[Full story](#)

Ingham County Legal News: Voir Dire: Judge gives attorneys tips on how to work with jurors

"Washtenaw County 14A District Court Chief Judge Kirk Tabbey has worked with an estimated 1,000 juries in his 30-year career as a prosecutor, defense attorney and judge. So he spoke from experience recently when addressing the Washtenaw County Bar Association's Criminal Law Section meeting on juries."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Macomb County Legal News.

Ingham County Legal News: Counties consider how to represent the indigent

"... Michigan lawmakers have introduced House Bill 4529 and Senate Bill 300 that would create the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission, which was recommended by a study group set up by Gov. Rick Snyder.... Ingham County District Court Judge Thomas Boyd said that the standards set by the soon-to-be-formed indigent defense commission will be introduced over perhaps two to three years."

[Full story](#)

Kalamazoo Gazette: State Rep. Margaret O'Brien testifies on success of local mental health courts

"State Rep. Margaret O'Brien had the opportunity to testify on the state of local mental health courts before the House Judiciary Committee Thursday, June 6, while accompanied by Judge Paul Bridenstine of the 8th District Court of Kalamazoo.... Judge Bridenstine established a mental health court in 2008, after learning about the successful implementation of one in Genesee County."

[Full story](#)

Lansing State Journal: 54B District Court offers bench warrant amnesty through July 12

"Starting Friday [June 7 the] 54B District Court will be offering an amnesty program through July 12 for anyone issued a bench warrant on or before May 21 for failure to pay court fines and costs. Amnesty will not apply to those with outstanding arrest warrants or those with bench warrants issued by other courts, according to a release."

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Macomb to start mental health court

"Creation of a mental health court in Macomb County has been discussed informally for several years. That talk will turn into action soon as officials have been meeting monthly to set up a court geared toward some criminal defendants who have treatable mental problems. The court's target start-up date is Oct. 1 in Probate Judge Carl Marlinga's courtroom at North Rose and Dunham Road in Mount Clemens."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland Press.

Motion Magazine: In Good Faith: New Supreme Court Justice took family advice to heart

"Known in legal circles as a quick study, David Viviano has received a crash course in more than just jurisprudence over the past three years.... Viviano's appointment to the seven-member high court became official February 27 during a press conference in Lansing that was populated by familiar faces."

[Full story](#)

Motion Magazine: Stepping Out: Attorneys find rhythm on the dance floor

"A circuit court judge. A medical malpractice lawyer. A family law attorney. The three have legal minds and dancing feet. Third Circuit Court Judge Wendy Baxter grew up dancing to some of Motown's greatest acts and today enjoys little more than spending an evening steppin' at the Firewater Bar and Grill."

[Full story](#)

Muskegon Chronicle: Perjury about shooting means years in prison for Muskegon man, 18

"Tirell Anton Mitchell, 18, of Muskegon has been sentenced to prison for up to 15 years for an unusual conviction: perjury on the witness stand. Muskegon County Chief Circuit Judge William C. Marietti on Tuesday, June 4, ordered Mitchell to prison for between two and 15 years, with credit for seven months already served in jail."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Center provides free volunteer mediation training

"Anyone considering a volunteer opportunity in the community can become a volunteer mediator through Oakland Mediation Center (OMC) under the auspices of the State Court Administrative Office. OMC is accepting applications for the next 40-Hour Community Mediation Training to teach volunteers to conduct mediation services for Oakland County residents, businesses, and organizations."

[Full story](#)

Traverse City Record-Eagle: Sexual assault trial on hold

"A trial for a man accused of sexually assaulting a young boy at a church is on hold while the Michigan Court of Appeals decides if his admission to a pastor should be used as evidence. Steven Richard, 28, of Honor, is charged with first-degree criminal sexual conduct, which carries a maximum penalty of life in prison."

[Full story](#)

Traverse City Record-Eagle: Book Signings: 06/09/2013; Weaver to speak

"Former Supreme Court Chief Justice Elizabeth Weaver, will be speaking on her new book, 'Judicial Deceit: Tyranny and Unnecessary Secrecy at the Michigan Supreme Court', at the Leelanau Independent Women for Democratic Action group meeting beginning at 4 p.m., June 11, at the Leelanau School."

[Full story](#)

Washtenaw County Legal News: Local judge helps with World Medical Relief

"World Medical Relief is taking recycling to a whole other level. WMR's mission is to help the medically underserved both at home and abroad by collecting and distributing medicines, medical equipment, medical supplies, and related materials."

[Full story](#)